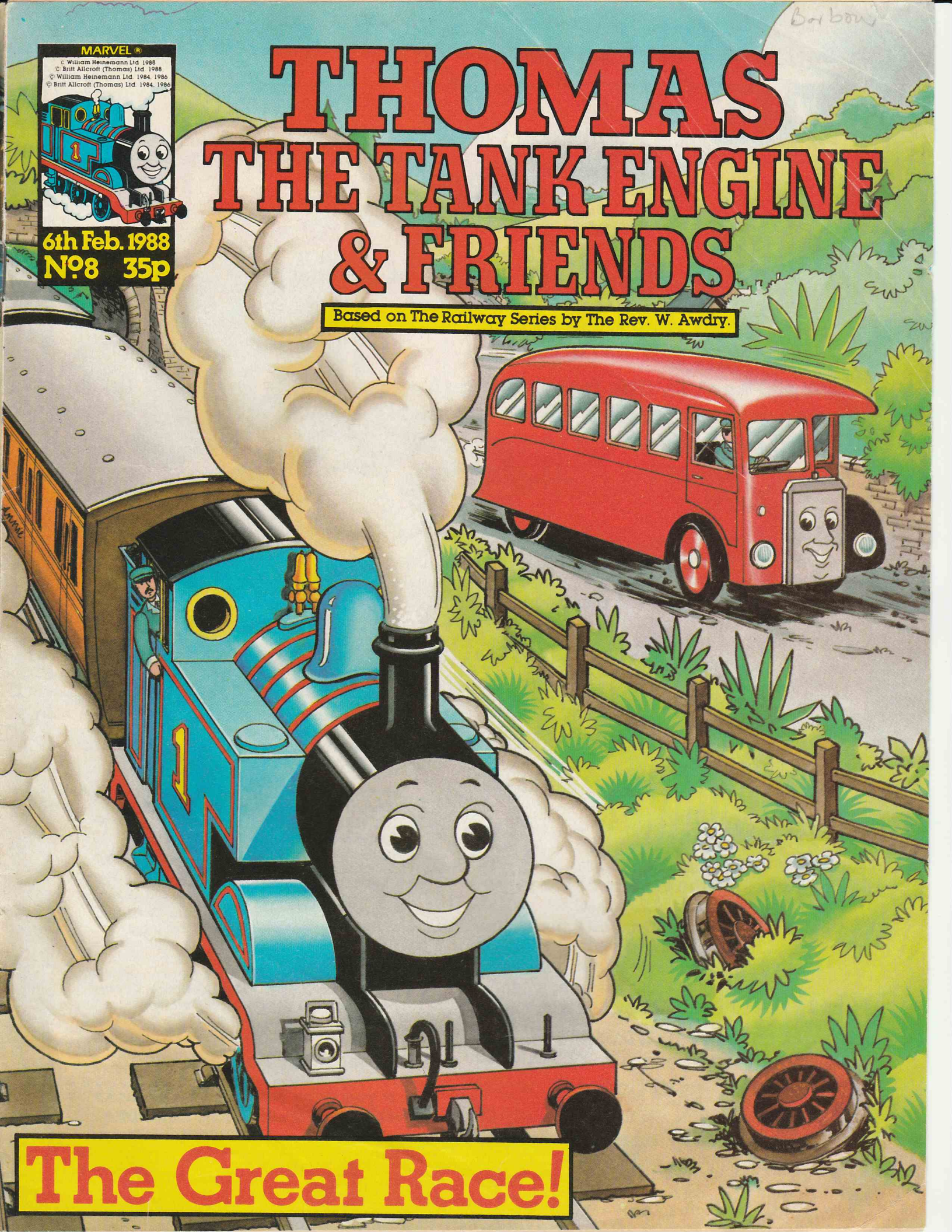
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6th Feb. 1988
No.8 35p
THOMAS
THE TANK ENGINE
& FRIENDS
Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.
The Great Race!

THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE!

Peep! Peep! In this issue you can meet my great friend Bertie the Bus – and read about our famous race!

FACT FILE:
Toby the Tram Engine

Toby is old-fashioned in his looks and in his ways. He was nearly scrapped once, so he is always happy to work. He likes to think he is a very useful engine, but he can be rather moody! He works on a quarry line away from the main lines and so his moods are not often noticed. He has his own faithful coach, Henrietta.

See Toby puffing behind the tall fir trees on our mural page!

The Thomas Club!

Have you joined the **Thomas Club** yet? All you have to do is collect **3 tokens** like the one at the bottom of the page – there is one in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends.** Send them, together with a large, stamped addressed envelope, (at least 21cm x 16cm) to:

The Thomas Club, Marvel Comics, 23 Redan Place, London W2 4SA.

You will be sent your very own **Thomas Club Pack!**

Please allow 28 days delivery of your Club Pack.

COMPETITION WINNERS!

Here are the names of the lucky winners of our splendid Colouring Competition which appeared in issue 1 of *Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends*:

First prize goes to **Kimberley Parker,** aged 3½, from Storrington, who wins a splendid **Thomas Sit 'n' Ride with wagon!**

Second prize L Godfrey from Kidlington; **Curtis Allen,** Sparkhill; **Ruth Hedley,** South Shields; **Teresa Young,** Milton Regis; **Adam Branson, Homer Green and B Scott,** Oatlands Park. They all receive **Big Push-Along Trains!**

Third prize: Garry McGihh, from Penicuik; **Kim Evans, Briton Ferry; Ian Kelly,** Limerick; **Clare Treacher,** Eltham, **Adam Fieldament,** Hellesdon; **Bryn Jones,** Leeswood, **Richard Grandiron,** Pinner; **Nigel Dawes,** Bexhill-on-Sea; **Philip Fazackerley,** Bickerstaffe; **Douglas,** of Garten; **I Hughes,** Great Baddow and **Michael Tidyman** from Newton Aycliffe. They all receive **Thomas Pull-Toy Shape Sorters!**

Runners-up: Andrew Jacob from Chelmsley Wood; **Christopher Holt,** Bramhall; **Karl Griffiths,** Flint; **Charlotte Wood,** Gillingham; **Alex Briggs,** Failsworth; **Paul,** Great Holm; **James Platt,** Barnes; **Patrick Hogan,** Hounslow; **P Harrison,** Oakley; **John Hoolihan,** Copnor; **Adam Repton,** Lodge Moor and **John Dunphy** from King's Norton – who all win a splendid **Percy Pull-Toy!**

All prizes come from Merit Toys Ltd.

If you were not one of the lucky winners – better luck next time!

THOMAS TOKEN

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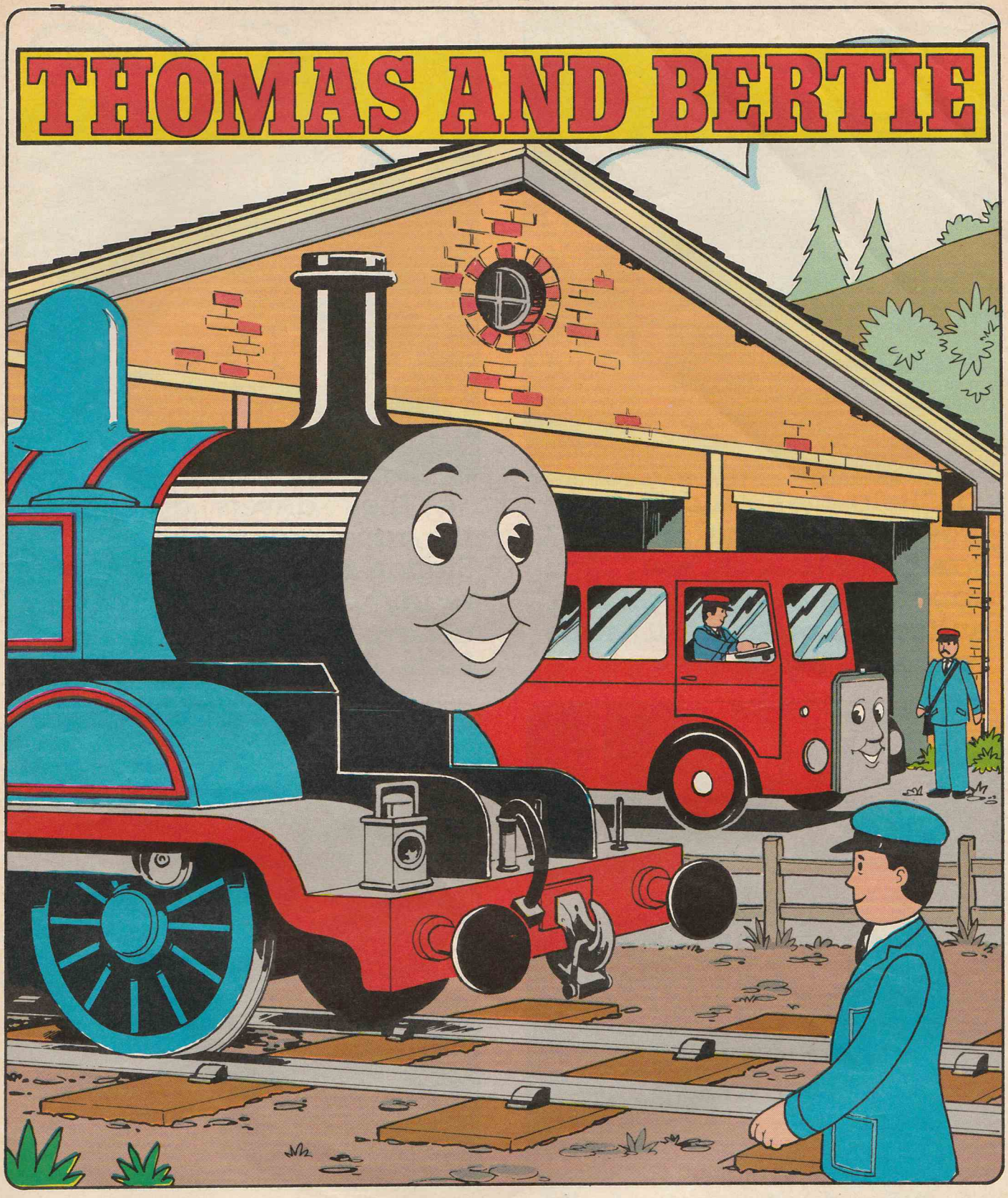
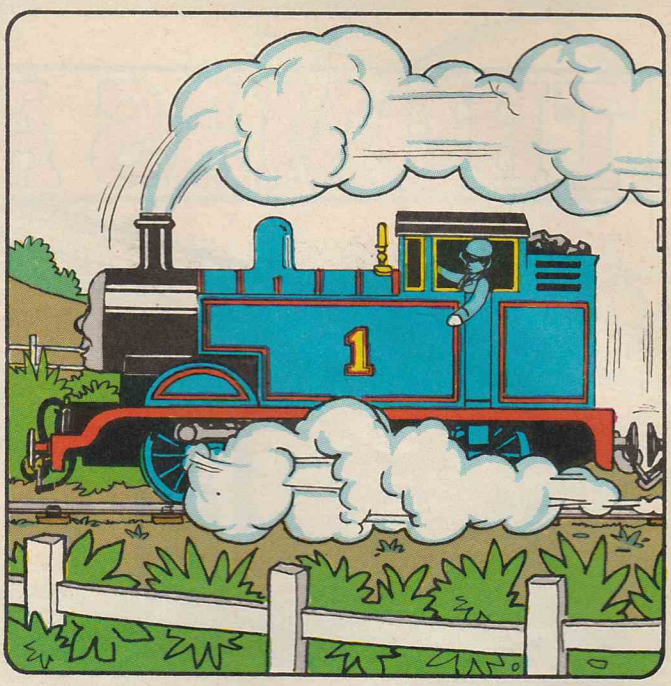
A listen and look story!



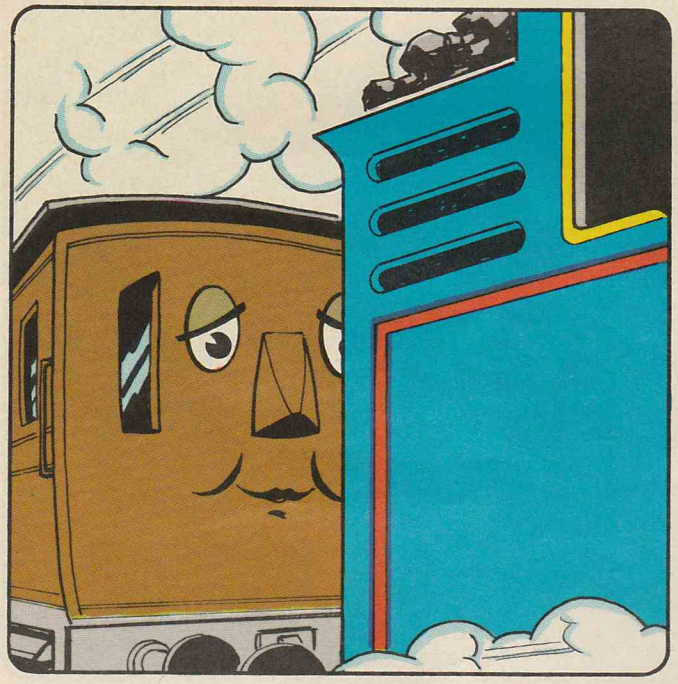
1. One day Thomas was waiting at a junction when a bus drove up. "Hullo," said Thomas. "Who are you?" "I'm Bertie,'" said the bus. "Who are you?" "I'm Thomas," said Thomas.

2. "I remember you," said Bertie. "You were stuck in the snow. Terence the tractor had to pull you out. I've come to help you with your passengers today."

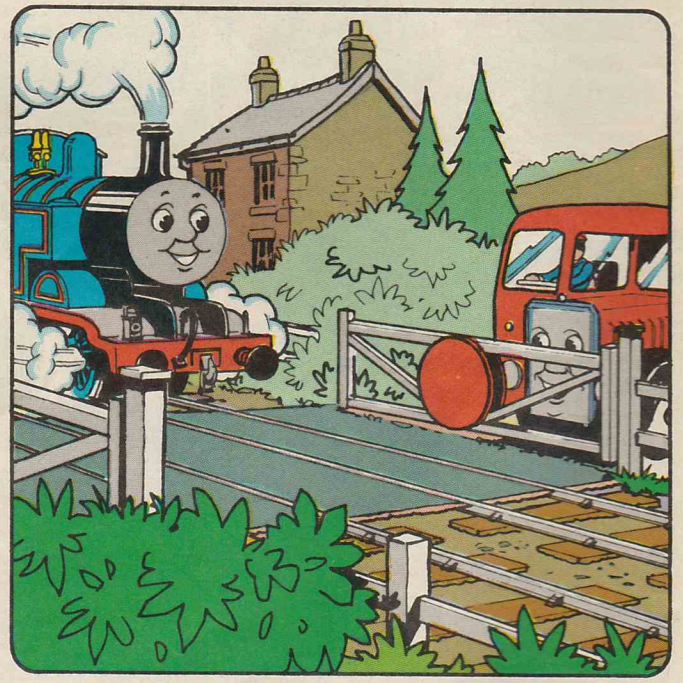
3. "Help **me**?" said Thomas crossly letting off steam. "I can go faster than you." "You can't," said Bertie. "Yes, I can," huffed Thomas. "I'll race you!" said Bertie.



4. Their drivers agreed to the race going ahead. The Station Master said, "Are you ready? **GO**!" Thomas was always slow to start and Bertie drew in front.

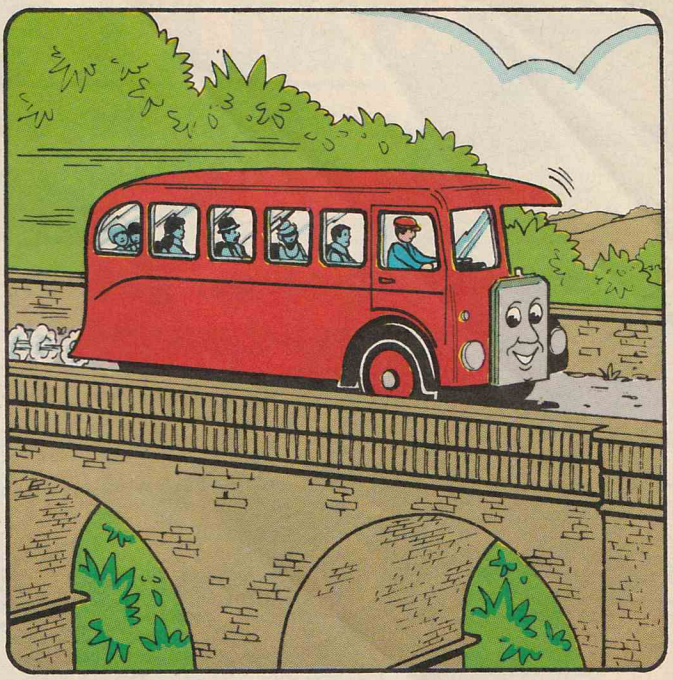


5. "Why don't you go fast?" called Annie and Clarabel. Thomas didn't mind. "Wait and see. Wait and see," he hissed. He had remembered the level crossing.

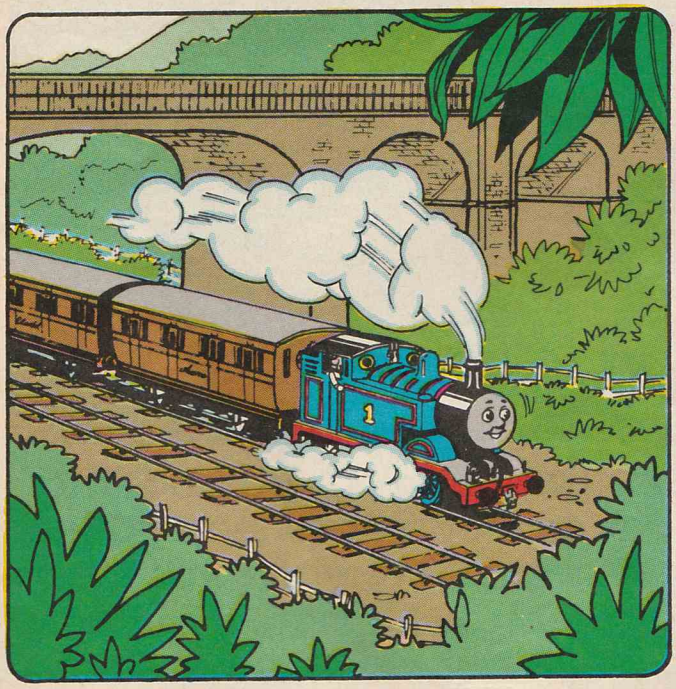


6. There was Bertie fuming at the crossing gates while they sailed gaily through. "Goodbye, Bertie!" called Thomas. After that the road left the railway.

7. Then they had to stop at the station. "Peep, peep! Quickly, please," whistled Thomas to the passengers. Off they went. "Come along, come along," sang Thomas.

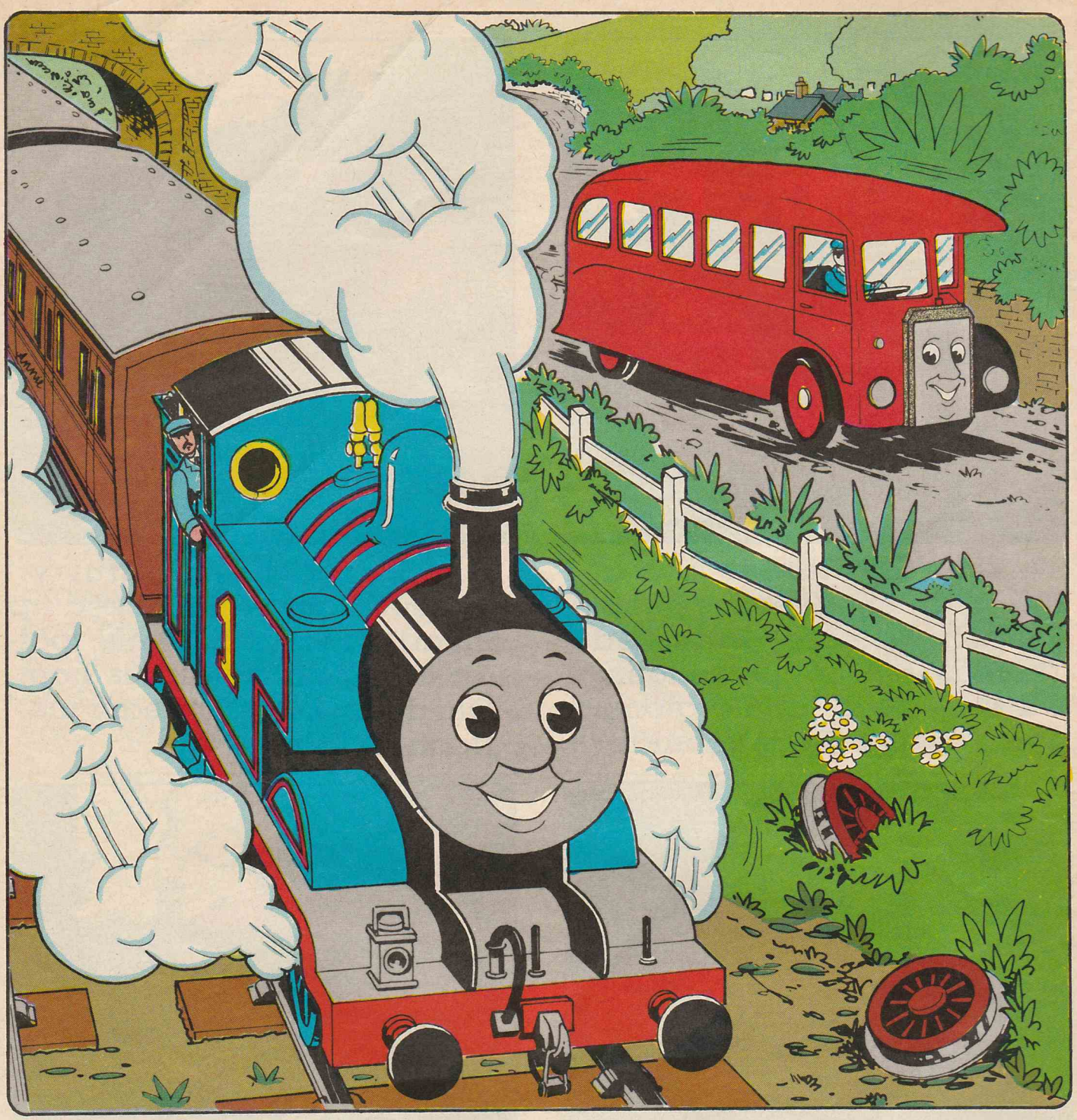


8. "Hurry, hurry, hurry," panted Thomas. He looked up ahead. There was Bertie tooting triumphantly on his horn. "Oh, deary me. Oh, deary me," groaned Thomas.



9. "Steady, Thomas," said his driver. "We'll beat Bertie yet." "We'll beat Bertie yet!" echoed Annie and Clarabel. "We'll do it, we'll do it," panted Thomas.

10. Then Thomas came to a station. "Goodbye Thomas," called Bertie. "You must be tired. Sorry I can't stop." "Oh, dear," thought Thomas. "We've lost now, for sure."



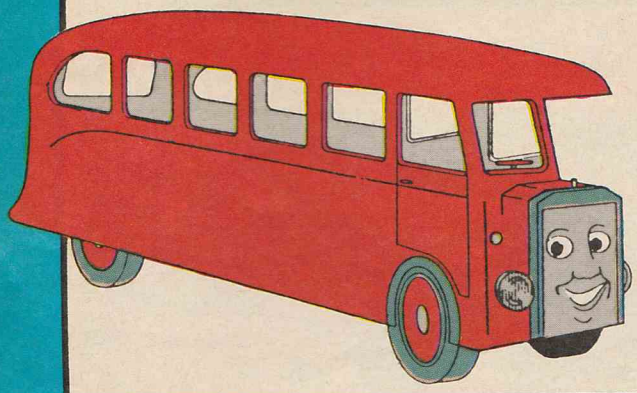
11. Thomas had a drink and felt better. "Hurrah! We're off," he puffed. As they crossed the bridge they saw Bertie waiting impatiently at the traffic lights. Now Thomas reached his full speed. Bertie tried hard, but Thomas was too fast. Thomas plunged into the tunnel, leaving Bertie toiling far behind.

12. "I've done it," panted Thomas as they whooshed into the last station. Everyone was there to celebrate his victory but they gave a big welcome to Bertie too. Thomas and Bertie would like to race again but the Fat Controller won't allow it – and Bertie's passengers don't like bouncing about like peas!

THE END

In our next issue: Percy runs away!

PUZZLE TIME!



Look at all the pictures below – there are 2 of each one. Can you take a pencil and draw a line joining up each pair?

One picture hasn't got a partner – which one is it? Answer below!

Answer There is only one guard

A read-aloud story!

The Train Spotters

One day a group of train spotters were coming to visit the station on the island of Sodor. Gordon was boasting again.

"I'm the best looking engine here," he said. "Everyone shall admire me as I pull the Express."

His driver came up to him and said, "You'll be taking out the coal trucks today, Gordon."

Gordon whistled crossly. "Trucks! **Humph!** I'm much too important for that!"

Gordon's driver stoked up his fire and oiled him for the day's work.

"No one will think I'm important if they see me pulling trucks!" said Gordon with a shrill whistle.

The coal trucks were coupled to Gordon. His driver saw the signal to go, but Gordon wouldn't move.

Gordon's driver was becoming impatient. "If you don't behave I shall ask the Fat Controller to let you move coal trucks for a whole month," he said.

Gordon pulled out of the station. He wanted to hurry so that he could get back in time to be cleaned up before the train-spotters arrived.

"Don't go so fast! Don't go so fast!" groaned the coal trucks.

When they reached the harbour the coal was loaded aboard a big ship.

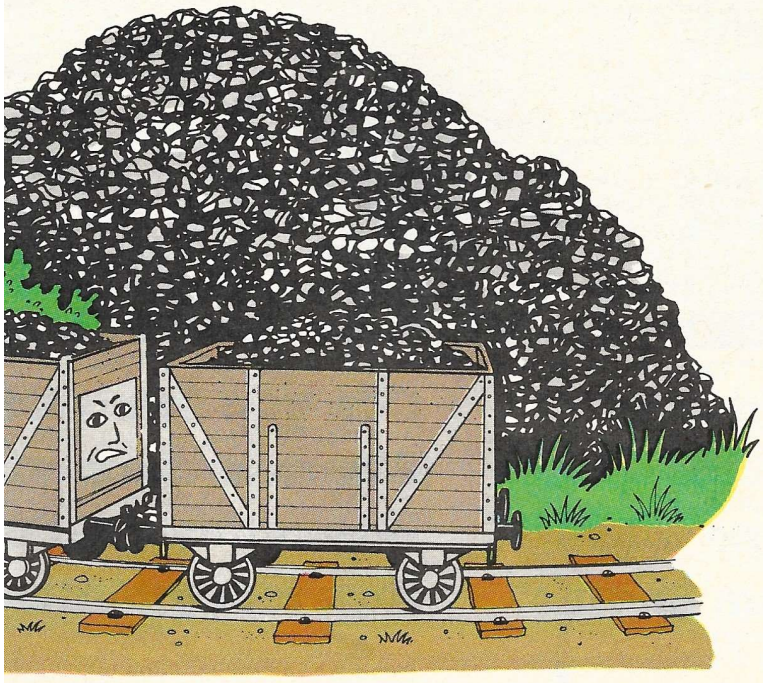
"Hurry up, hurry up," said Gordon.

"Be patient," said his driver. "More haste, less speed."

Gordon made the tired coal trucks hurry on the return journey too. "Oh! Oh! Oh!" they cried.

Gordon saw the station come into view. The train-spotters had not arrived.

"I've made it," Gordon laughed. He hurried along even faster.



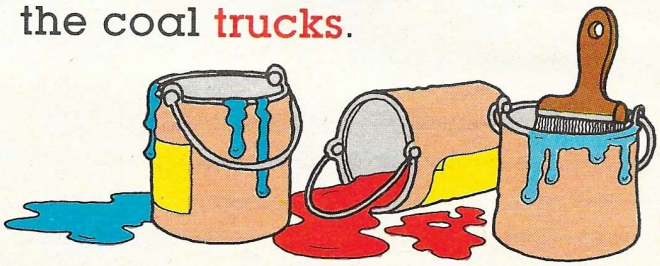
Suddenly Gordon's driver saw the signal was straight for 'stop', but Gordon was going too fast.

A paint wagon was on the line. Gordon's driver let off steam and put on the brakes but it was too late. Gordon ran into the paint wagon. Paint flew everywhere.

The Fat Controller was very cross. He sent Gordon back to his shed without being cleaned.

"I've got paint spots all over me," he fumed.

"Serves you right," giggled the coal trucks.



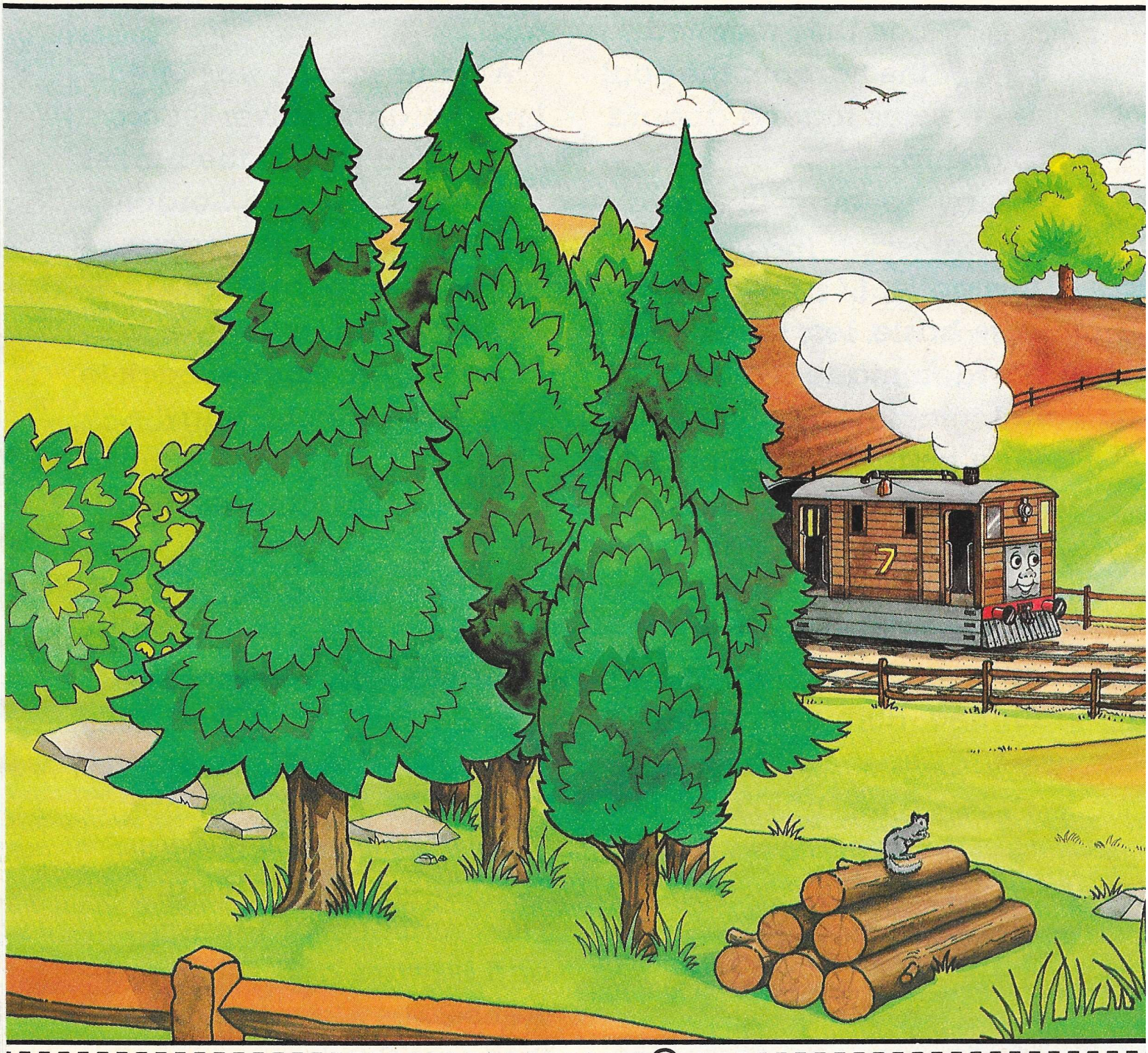
Then the train-spotters came. They took the numbers of Thomas and Edward and Percy and James. They laughed when they saw Gordon.

So did Thomas.

"Now we have train-spotters – and a spotted train!" he laughed.

THE END

Behind the



How many tall fir trees can you see?

Point to the tallest one!

What can you see on top of the logs?

What number is Toby the Tram Engine?

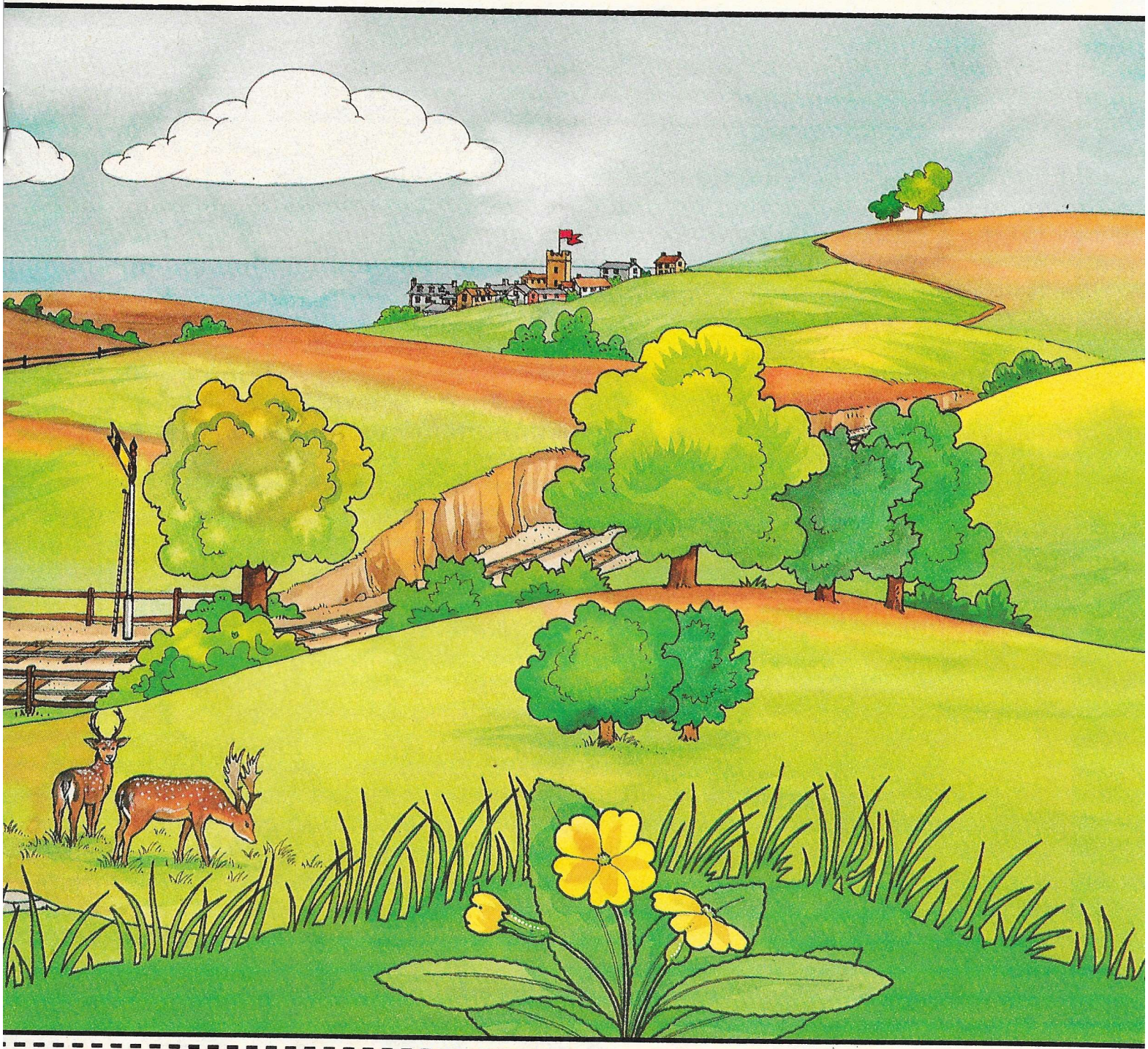
Can you see a fl

Where is the pret

How many deer

How many birds

fir trees!



g flying?
y yellow primrose?
e there?
re flying?

Note for parents

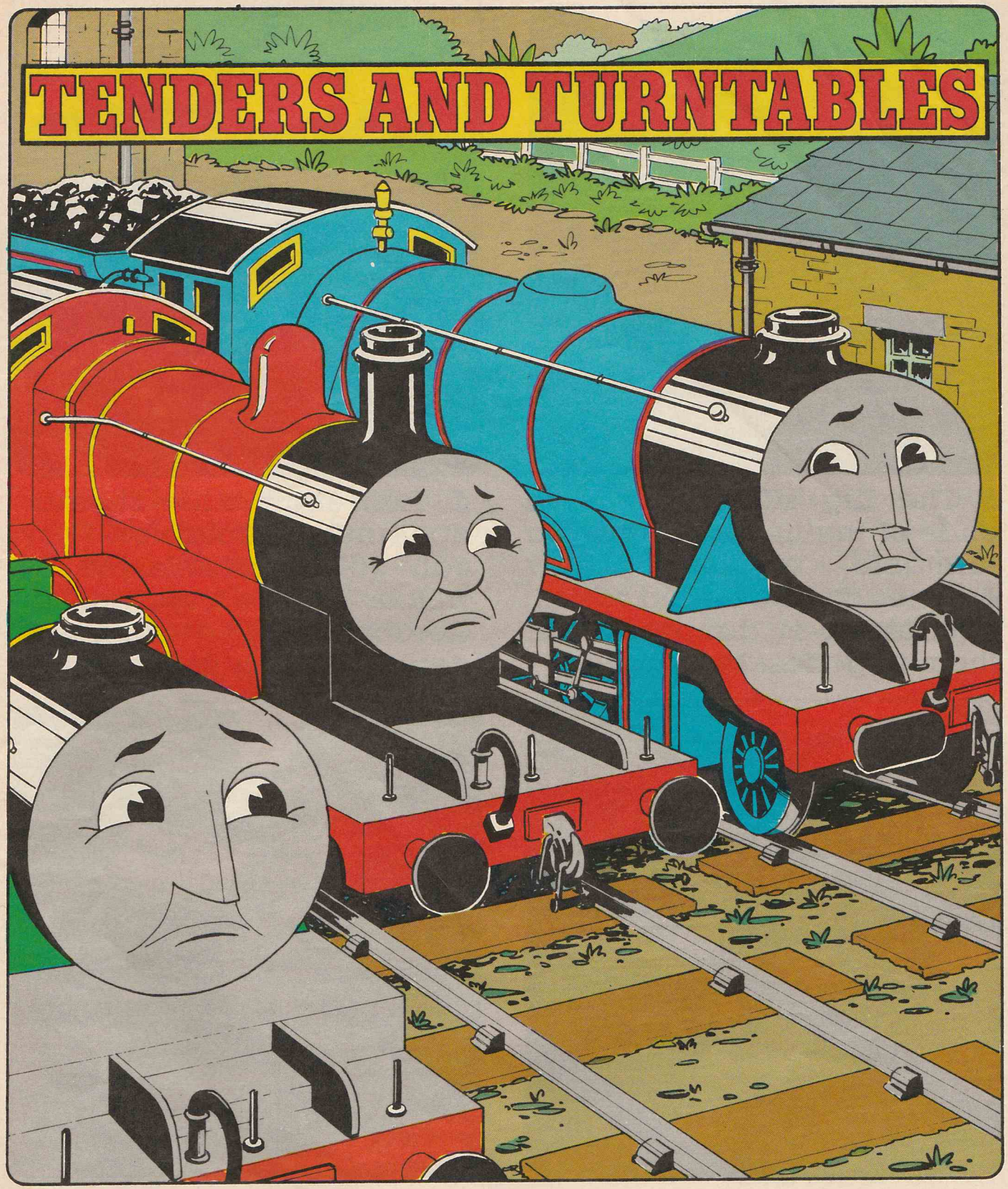
This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the magazine with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There is a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends.** Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room?

Next: Past the Farm!

COLOURING TIME!

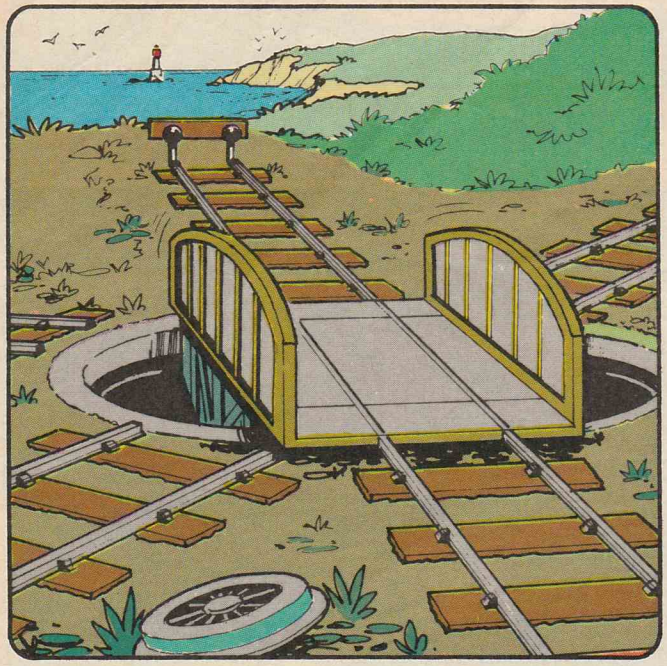
Thomas and Bertie are having a race!
Colour them in! Do you remember who won?

A listen and look story!

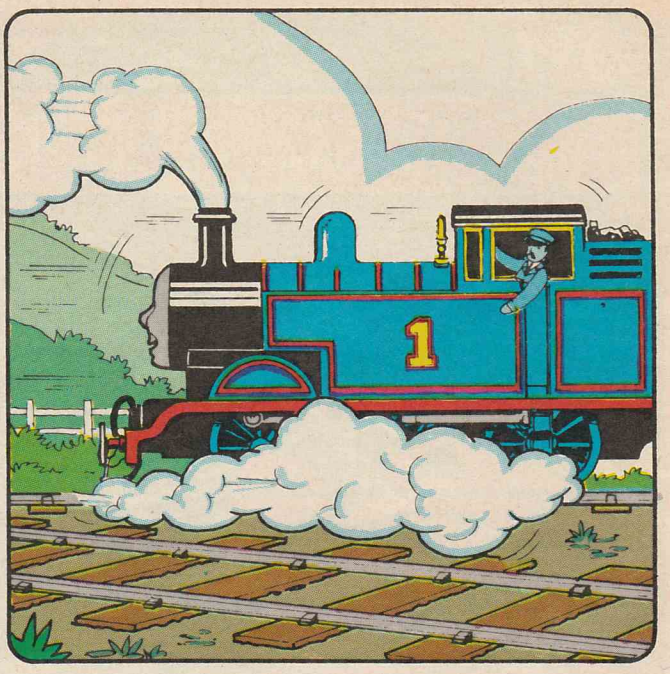


1. Henry and Gordon were lonely when Thomas left to run his own branch line. They had more work to do and had to fetch their own coaches. They didn't like that at all.

2. James grumbled too. "We never rest, we never rest," they all complained. The engines were causing the Fat Controller a great deal of trouble altogether.

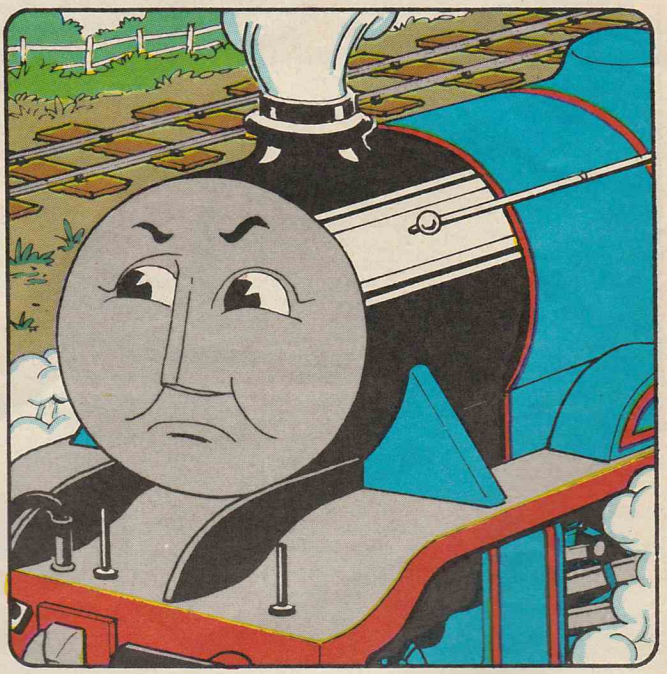


3. The big stations at both ends of the line each have a turntable, so that tender engines can be turned round, because it is dangerous for them to go fast backwards.



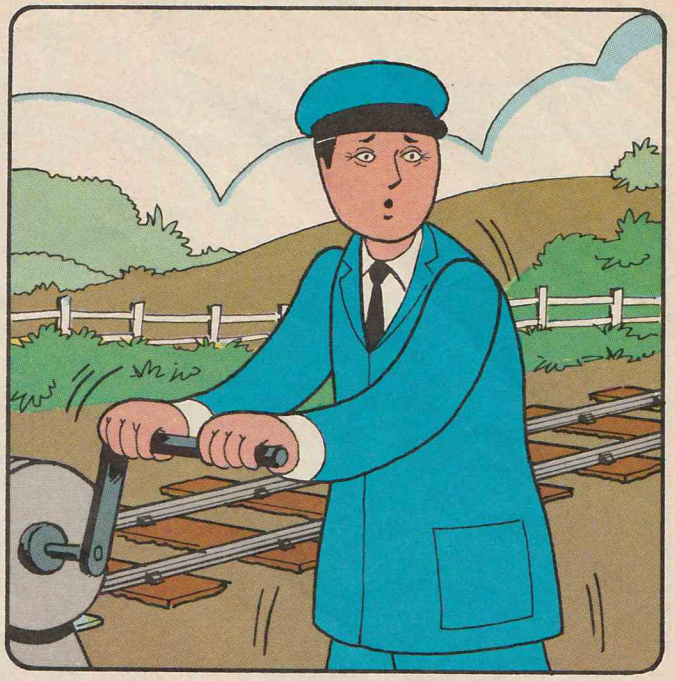
4. Tank engines like Thomas don't need turntables. They can go backwards just as well as they go forwards. But Gordon thinks having a tender makes him important.

5. "You don't understand, little Thomas," he puffed. "Tender engines shouldn't have to shunt trucks, fetch coaches or go on any dirty sidings. It's not proper!"

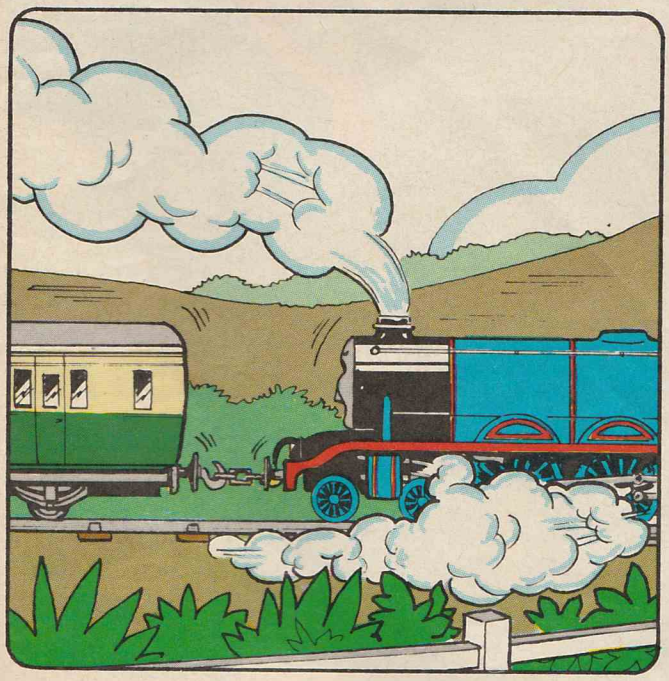


6. Thomas chuckled and went off with Annie and Clarabel. "Disgraceful!" Gordon hissed as he ran backwards to the turntable, which was in a windy place by the sea.

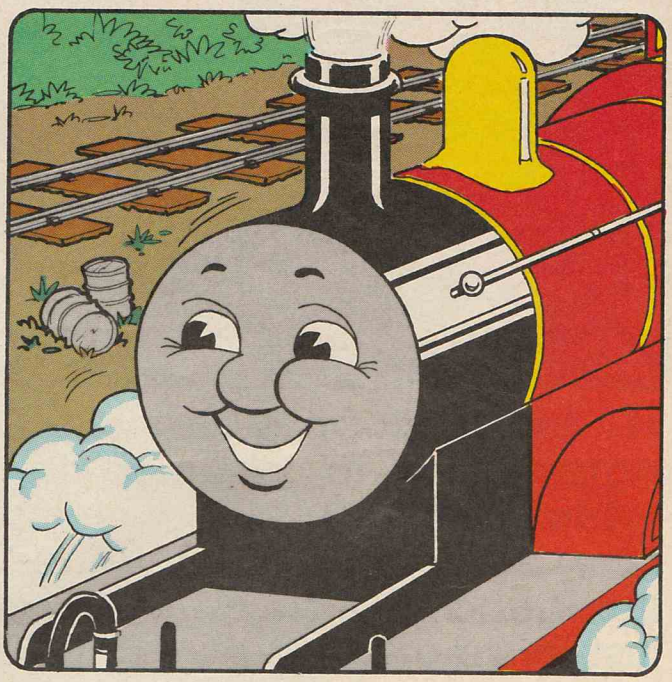
7. If Gordon was not on the turntable just right, he put it out of balance. His driver tried to make him stop in the right place but Gordon wasn't trying.



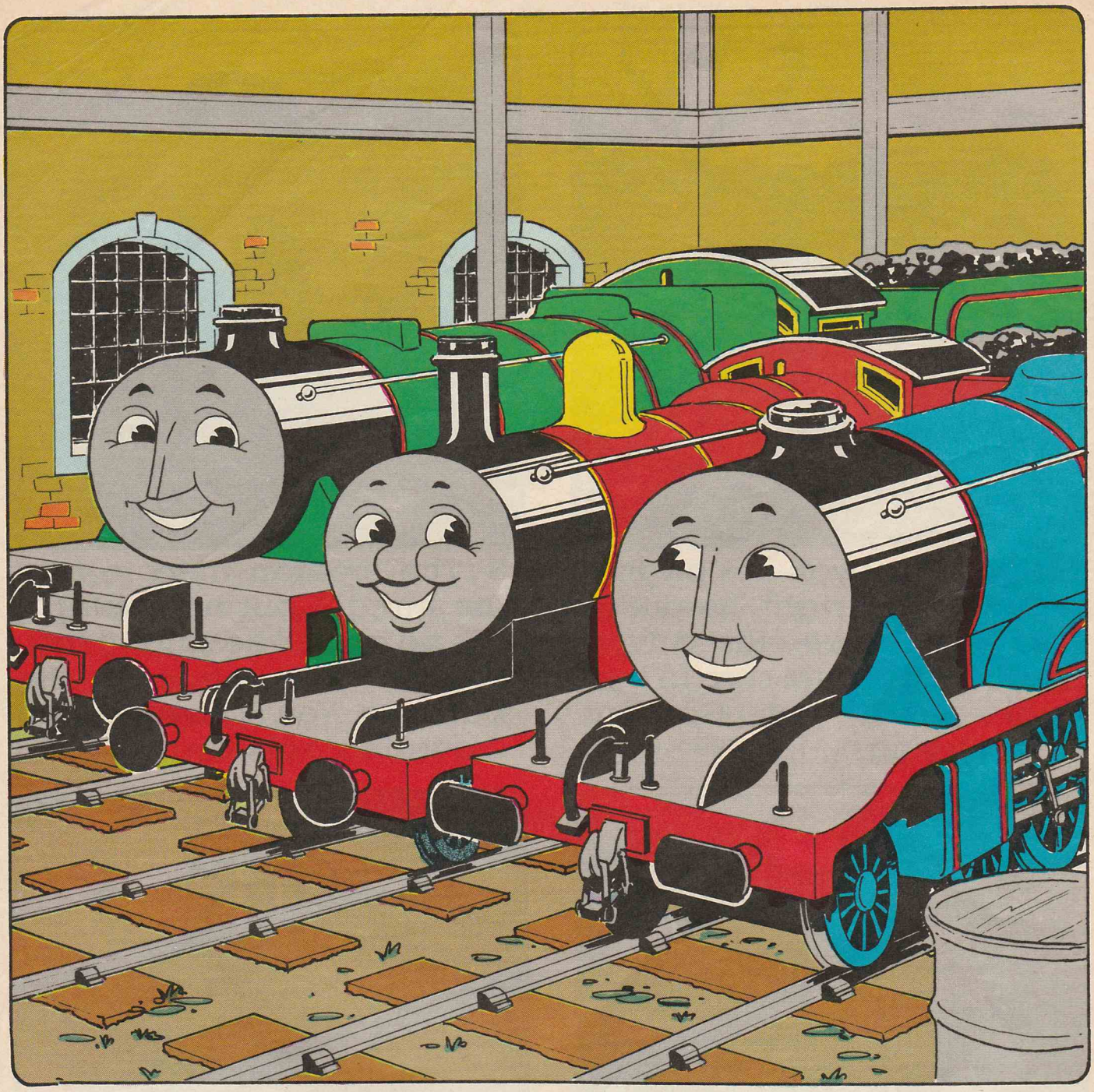
8. The fireman tried to turn the handle but he couldn't. "It's no good," he said at last. "Your tender upsets the balance. You'll have to pull the train backwards."



9. "Look," called some boys. "There's a new tank engine. Oh, it's only Gordon back to front." "Hullo," whistled Thomas. "Are you playing Tank Engines? How sensible."



10. Even James laughed when he saw him. "Take care," hissed Gordon. "You might get stuck too." "No fear," James chuckled. "I'm not so fat as you. I won't stick."

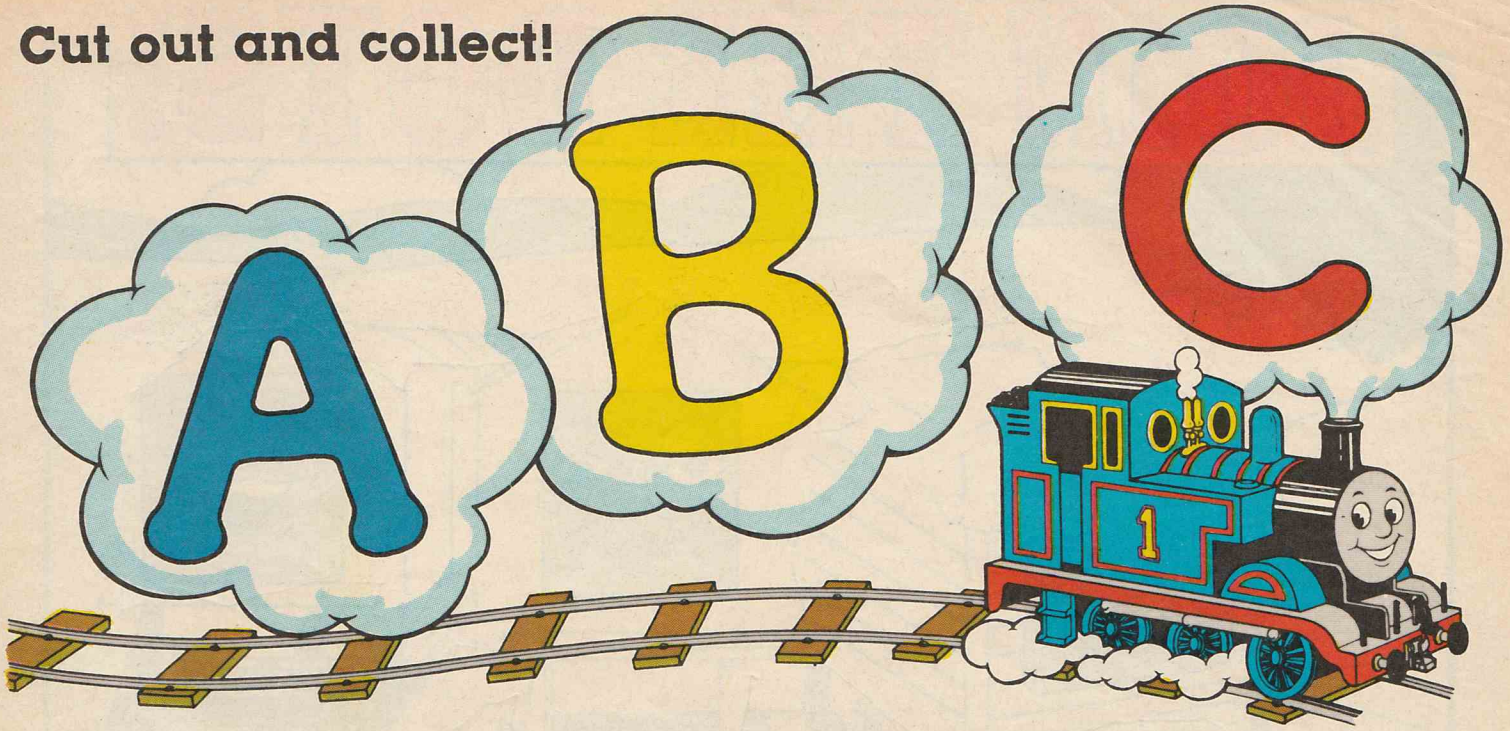


11. James stopped in just the right place to balance the table. It could swing easily now. James's fireman turned the handle. Gordon arrived just in time to see everything. James turned much too easily. The wind puffed him around like a top. He couldn't stop. "Well, well!" laughed Gordon. "Are you playing roundabouts?"

12. That night the three engines had an "indignation meeting". "It's shameful to treat us like this," they said. "James spins like a top, Gordon has to go backwards and the Fat Controller makes us all shunt in dirty sidings." "Listen," said Gordon. He whispered something to the others. They decided to go on strike!

In our next issue: Find out what happens!

Cut out and collect!



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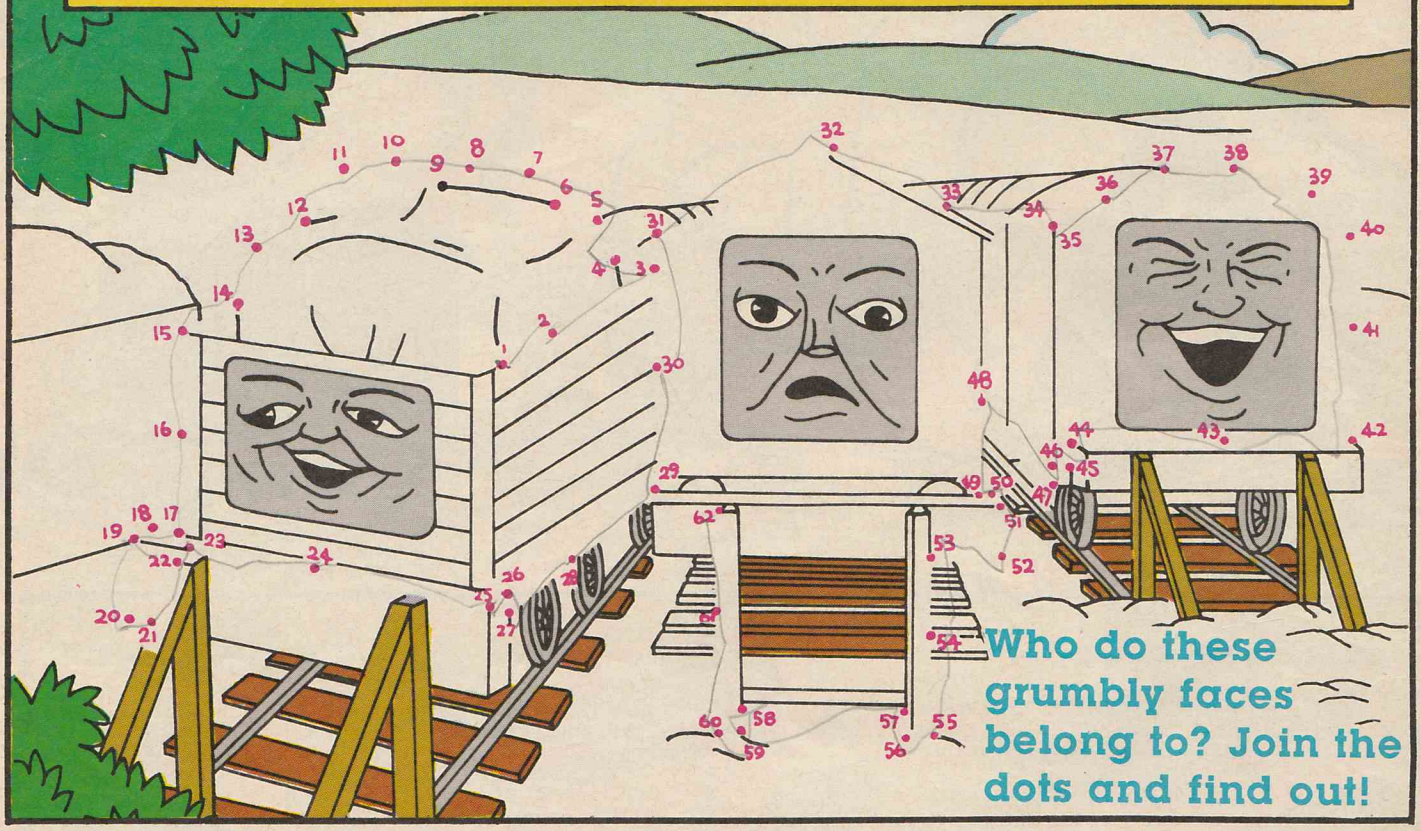
JOIN THE DOTS!

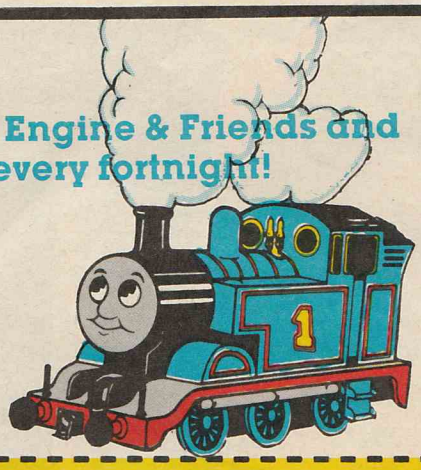


Who do these grumbly faces belong to? Join the dots and find out!

News of a great offer!

Take out a subscription to Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends and have every issue sent straight to your home every fortnight!

What's more, if you do not already belong to the Thomas Club, you will automatically become an immediate member and your exciting Club Pack will be sent to you too!



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Please allow 28 days for delivery.

***I should like to subscribe to Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends* for one year and enclose cheque/postal order for £9 to include postage and packing. Please enrol me as an immediate member of the Thomas Club if I do not already belong!**

Name....

Age .....Birthday .....

Address .....

.....

Signature of parent/guardian .....

Thomas Subscriptions, Marvel Comics, 23 Redan Place, London W2 4SA.

Write to:

THE FAT CONTROLLER

Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas – or any of the other engines? Then why not write to me at the address below! I would be so pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,
I have some **Thomas the Tank Engine** stories that my Dad had when he was a little boy. The other day at a sale we found an old game all about Thomas. We make a lot of noise playing it.
Love from **Simon,** aged 5.
I am glad to hear you enjoy letting off steam, Simon.

AN ARTIST!

Dear Fat Controller,
I like drawing engines all the time, every day.
Love from **Andrew,** aged 4.
Thank you very much for the splendid drawing of Thomas you sent me, Andrew.

BIRTHDAY TREAT!

Dear Fat Controller,
On my brithday when I was 4 my mummy made me a cake like Henry and I ate the piece with his face on.
Love from **Richard,** aged 4.
And did he taste delicious, Richard? I'm sure he did!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Our birthday wishes go to: **Mark Linford-Hazell, Daniel Leonard, Matthew Boote, Paul Cooksley, Jonathan Stevens-Fisher, Ashley Cawston** and **Oliver Mead!** Many happy returns to you all!

If you would like a birthday mentioned here, make sure that you send us your name at least two months **in advance!**

JAMES'S JAPES!

Why did the orange stop halfway up the hill?
Because it ran out of juice!
Mark Linford-Hazell.

What did the big hammer say to the little hammer?
You're a little smasher!
Joanna Morrison.

What is the fastest vegetable?
A runner bean!
Neil Hunt.

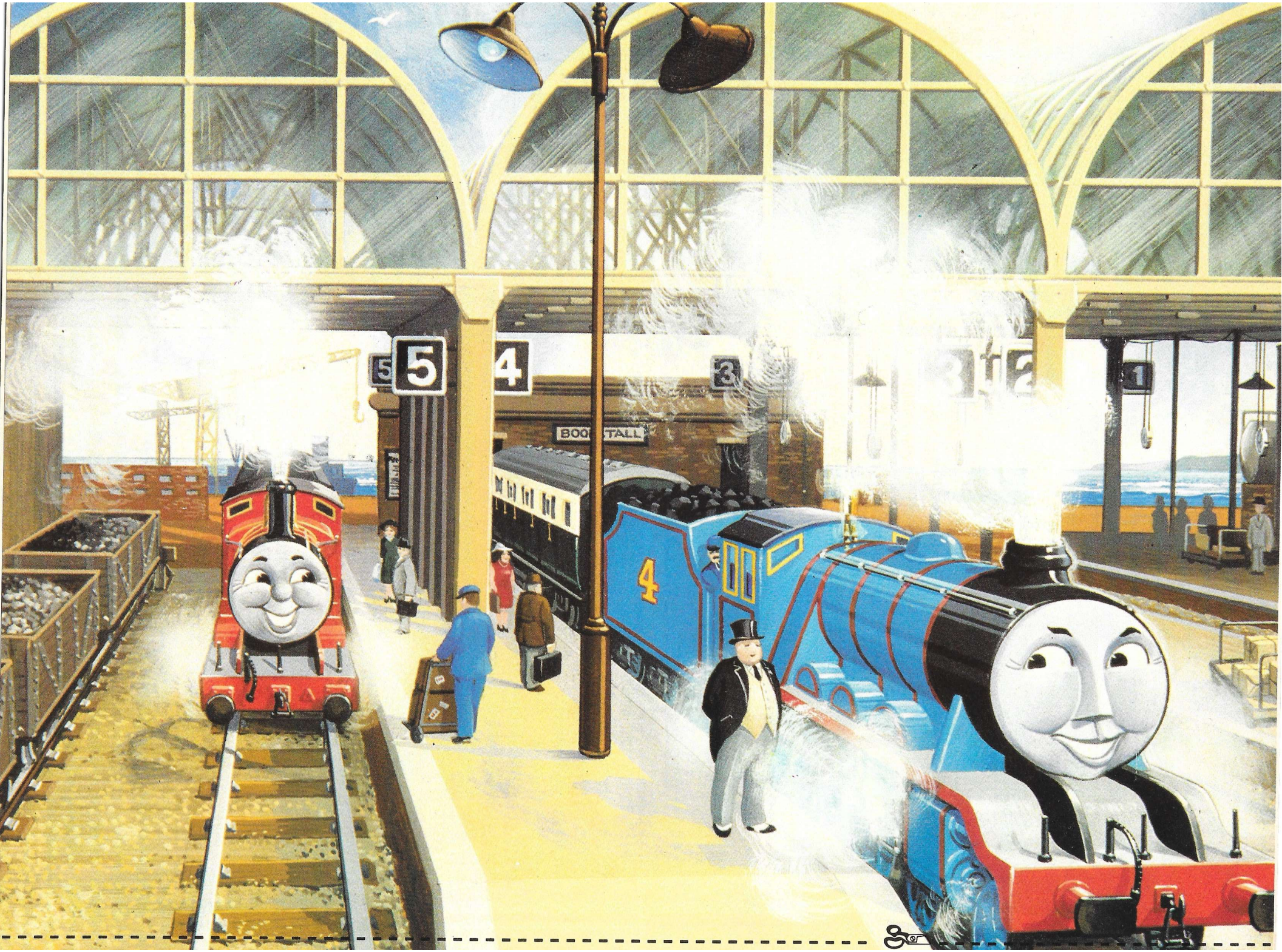
What's grey and travels underground at high speed?
A mole on a motorbike!
Austen.

Yours,

Sir Topham Hatt

The Fat Controller.

Send your letters to: **The Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics Ltd, 23 Redan Place, London W2 4SA.**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